DEC 0.4 2000



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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in the application of:

Seres et al.

S.N.: 09/218308

Filed: 12/22/1998

For: PROTECTIVE DEVICE FOR

DISPENSING DEVICES

A.U.: 2854

Examiner: A. Nguyen

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Box CPA

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

The Applicant hereby requests this amendment be entered into and considered in the above-identified application.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (amended) A protective device for dispensing devices which have a document feed path opening for dispensing printed documents, said protective device comprising:

[means for covering at least the document feed path opening of the dispensing device; and

means for providing access to the document received from the dispensing device]

a hood having [a top portion forming an enclosure over the document feed path opening and opening into said means for providing access; and

